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March 12, 2007

Mail Stop AMENDMENT
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**Re: U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/667,521
For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR REDUCING FLUID LOSS DURING A
SURGICAL PROCEDURE
Our Reference No: 23660-00656**

Dear Sir:

Transmitted herewith for filing in the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office in connection with the above-referenced application are the following documents:

(1) Response and Amendment under 37 C.F.R. 1.111 for the December 12, 2006 Office Action (10 pages).

No fee is thought necessary. Please date-stamp the enclosed copy of this letter, acknowledging receipt of the above-identified document, and return it to us.

Sincerely yours,

JOHN N. COULBY, Reg. No., 43,565
RONALD KIMBLE, Reg. No. 44,186

Enclosures

cc: Dr. Howard Tanner
Dr. Hugh H. Trout, III



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: Hugh H. TROUT, et al. Art Unit: 3731
Application Serial No.: 10/667,521 Examiner: Tyson, Melanie Ruano
Filed: September 23, 2003
For: APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR REDUCING FLUID LOSS
DURING A SURGICAL PROCEDURE
Attorney Docket #: 23660-00656

RESPONSE AND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.111

Commissioner of Patents
Mail Stop: Amendments
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sirs:

In response to the Office Action dated December 12, 2006, please amend the application as shown below.

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